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Weeks - The Weeks Collection of Caroliniana - 1907

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Harvard College
Library



Gift of
The Author



AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
COLLECTION OF BOOKS
RELATING TO
NORTH CAROLINA
FORMED BY
STEPHEN B. WEEKS



THE WEEKS COLLECTION

OF

CAROLINIANA

BY

STEPHEN B. WEEKS



RALEIGH

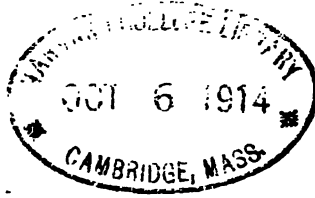
E. M. UZZELL & Co., PRINTERS AND BINDERS

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THE WEEKS COLLECTION OF CAROLINIANA.

STEPHEN B. WEEKS.

"The real University is a collection of books."—CARLYLE.
"With the love of books in his heart no man is ever poor."

—LANGFORD.

"The more useless and unpopular a science is the more precious it is."—ARISTOTLE.

In undertaking to comply with the courteous request of the North Carolina Historical Commission for some account of my collection of books relating to the history of our State it is proper for me to crave pardon of the reader for what might seem at first sight unwarranted egotism and personality. But personal it must be if I am to treat the subject at all. I have been engaged in this delightful pastime for more than twenty years, and for the last fifteen there has probably never been a day when the Collection was not in my mind in some form or other. To it I have given moments of leisure; to it I have given days of toil; it has been with me from day to day, from year in to year out, and an account of it cannot be other than personal. It is almost more than personal; it is to me as near a living, vital organism as it is possible for an inanimate thing to be. It is instinct with life, for its books represent the best thought that North Carolina has produced. It is a thing of beauty and a joy forever, and there is no wonder that it appeals to me with all the subtlety of affection that a sentient being might possess.

To give the history of this Collection is almost the same as writing my autobiography, for I have always been a collector. The collecting mania first appeared as a fancy for gathering the nicely polished and evenly cut ends of wood that fell from the work-bench of old Jonathan Duncan, the local wheelwright, in Pasquotank County thirty-five years ago. This is

the first form of the gentle madness, which, like ambition, is an infirmity of noble minds, that possessed me. But I soon outgrew the stage of block collecting; not, however, till my uncle of blessed memory had given me many a proper lecture on the impropriety of carrying off such wooden odds and ends without so much as saying "By your leave, Mr. Duncan."

Perhaps the next stage was that of scrap-books. I could not give dates were they desirable, for I only remember that this mania seized me before my ninth year, superinduced by an aunt who was also mother, and who thought in this way to inspire in me a literary trend. The few country newspapers that were in reach, *The North Carolinian*, the extreme radical organ of Elizabeth City, published by Dr. Palemon John; *The Richmond Christian Advocate*, a stray copy of the *Toledo Blade* now and then, and such others as came to hand, were eagerly scanned and ruthlessly clipped for whatever took my childish fancy. I had not yet gotten to the useful stage of collecting. Perhaps every collector has to pass through what may be called the destructive stage, for, inexperienced and narrow of vision, he presumes to judge for all the world as well as himself, and as a result, if he has access to much material, destroys more than he saves. Such was my experience later when I first began collecting North Carolina materials. Twenty years ago I knew the State so well that I dared say what was useful for its history and threw the rest away. Now I am more humble.

But I am ahead of my story. After the scrap-book stage had become a part of my nature I turned my thoughts to botany; not that I knew aught of botany in a scientific sense, or even so much as knew that there was such a science. I took it in the simplest form—in the form in which it appealed to me in every-day life. I began by bringing together as many specimens as possible of the woods native to the section in which I lived (Pasquotank). These were prepared in a crude fashion by putting one end of the stick between the joints of a rail fence and then cutting it down to a certain

thickness with a drawing-knife; this tool and an old saw being the only scientific instruments in my laboratory. But they served my purpose passing well. I gathered all the varieties of trees and woody plants within reach, labeled them carefully and laid them away. When I visited neighboring counties I was awake to my opportunities and secured specimens of anything new; when my aunt went on a visit to Illinois she was charged to exert herself in my service, and in that way several specimens unknown to my part of North Carolina were added to my store. But I felt the need of knowledge; I wanted some guide, some manual, into which I might look when I had an unknown specimen in hand. Thus were my first ideas of botanical science evolved, for I had never so much as heard of a text-book on botany, nor did I know the word itself.

But this fad ceased to interest me, for I had exhausted the possibilities of my position and, building on my dead self, I passed on to other hobbies. The next was newspapers. My desire was to get one copy of as many different papers as I possibly could, and while it lasted publishers were importuned for specimen copies and my friends and acquaintances made miserable with my begging for every stray newspaper that happened to add a new title to my collection.

I was then, and am now, in a dilettante way, a stamp collector. I cannot assign that amiable weakness to any particular period, for it covers all; but I have had more control over this propensity than over others, for stamp collecting requires expert knowledge, much time and much money, and while I am always interested in a good collection of stamps, I have not had the disposition to go deeply into the matter for myself.

By the time that my newspaper fad had worn off I was ready to enter the University. Here I was introduced to the intellectual life more fully than I had been before. Having been always a lover of books, a voracious reader, an enthusiastic gatherer of everything that came in my way, and a buyer as well for my means, I had still perhaps never seen more than

200 or 300 volumes in any single library in my life. Imagine, then, my feeling when on the first Saturday after my arrival on the Hill I was escorted to the fourth floor of the New East Building and was introduced to the five or six thousand volumes at that time belonging to the Philanthropic Society of the University. My awe and reverence were unspeakable; my joy unbounded, for I love to browse in a library, and it was here that I had my first real acquaintance with literature. This does not mean that I read overmuch in my undergraduate days. It was rather the reverse. I confined myself closely to text-books, and the reading was only as leisure allowed or necessity demanded. I have always questioned if this was not a mistake. I was working for grades, but the stuff learned in the text-books has long since passed into the limbo of forgotten things. Would the result have been better had I turned myself loose in the library and followed the bent of my nature? But this came later, for in my senior year I read Martin and Williamson, which I had discovered in the library only a few months before—so little was the history of our own State cultivated twenty-one years ago, the library committee of one of the societies of that institution even refusing to buy a North Carolina book! I made extensive notes on both, with an idea of using them in time.

Another matter that tended largely to develop my tastes along these lines was my appointment in 1884 as one of a committee to edit and publish a new edition of the Register of Members of the Philanthropic Society. Because of the natural inclination, perhaps, most of this work fell to me. I carried one of the old catalogues in my pocket and studied it as leisure afforded. It became a constant source of inspiration; the great men whose names it contained became, whether living or dead, my friends and companions. In them I lived over the history of the University and of the State, and learning something of each, I wished to know more. This introduced me, through my mas-

ter, the accomplished Doctor Battle—to whom the men who sat at his feet owe an unsurpassed example of kindly courtesy and gentle enthusiasm contagious in its intensity and ennobling in its influence—to the larger world of State celebrities as contained in Wheeler's History and his Reminiscences, which was then just appearing.

It would seem that my interest in the State's life came through the biography of her great men. It was personal; it was individual. The strong man appeals more to the youthful mind than does the event in which he acts his part. It is the actor and not the action which attracts; the individual, the person, the ego that compels attention. Certain it is that my interest was first aroused by studying the register of members of the Phi. Society and by following them up in Wheeler; and the first North Carolina book that I bought was M. H. Moore's *Pioneers of Methodism in Virginia and North Carolina*. I was acquainted with the author, and that lent additional charm to the reading, just as do the autograph letters with which I extra illustrate my books to-day. Moore's *Pioneers* I count as the cornerstone of my Collection, and the date of its acquisition is February 2, 1884. Not that I did not have items before that date which have since gone into the Collection; but because for some unknown reason that book and that date are irrevocably fixed in my mind as the turning point of all my subsequent work in this line.

While I was a student in the University the Collection grew very slowly. I had become a subscriber to the *North Carolina University Magazine* the first year I was in the institution and a little later began to chase after that dreadful bugaboo of the collector, "back numbers"; but I ruined many valuable copies of that and other magazines before I had cut my first teeth in collecting, for I tore the copies to pieces and saved a picture here and an article there and had these unrelated excerpts bound together in big volumes. I have known of public libraries that bound many separate pamphlets together; but I soon saw the folly of cutting and condemning and of

binding together unrelated items. Now I save all and bind every separate item separately. During these years also I contributed my first sheets to the history of the State in the shape of a Register of Members of the Philanthropic Society in 1886, and another edition, revised and enlarged, in 1887; together with the Minutes of the Y. M. C. A. Convention of North Carolina for 1886, 1887, and 1888, and a History of the Y. M. C. A. in the State in the latter year. These matters are mentioned because they have no little to do with developing a taste which was already keenly felt and which grew by what it fed upon. It happened, also, that during these years a number of State papers came to my hands. These were clipped so far as they had items of local historical interest; the clippings were carefully mounted, uniformly bound and indexed. I have ten volumes of this sort coming down to 1894. Since then the mass of clippings has become so great that I am simply appalled when I think of doing anything with them except letting them alone. It was as early as the summer of 1887 that I formed the idea of compiling a Bibliography of North Carolina, but I soon saw that if such a work was to be done it would first be necessary for me to gather the materials on which it was to be based.

It was thus my interest grew. When I went to the Johns Hopkins University in 1888 the work of collecting was suspended in part while I was acquiring a more thorough knowledge of history and of historical methods. The idea was dormant; it was not dead. The virus of collecting had taken too deep, too vital a hold on my nature to be shaken off. I did not try. I have tried only once in my life. That was just after I came to the Southwest. Then I concluded it was time to stop. I made a good resolve and stood by it for two weeks; then I saw a North Carolina item that I had never heard of before offered for 25 cents. I fell, and have never since made an effort to reform. When I went back to North Carolina in the summer of 1891 from the Johns Hopkins I had about 300 items on State history, mostly digested history

and including: Moore's Pioneers; Wheeler's History and his Reminiscences; Hawks's History; Schenck's North Carolina; Caruthers's Caldwell; Byrd's Dividing Line (1841); Vass's New Bern Presbyterian Church; Lawson's History (1860); Grimes's Letters; Draper's Kings Mountain; Bennett's Chronology; Burkhead's Centennial of Methodism; Dowd's Prominent Living North Carolinians; Debates in Convention of 1835; Moore's Roster; Colonial Records, and a number of historical, biographical, and university pamphlets. From that time my Collection has been insistent in season and out of season, in pleasure and in sorrow, in health and in sickness, at home and abroad, never ceasing, unending, always, everywhere, from everybody.

But this does not imply that at that time my knowledge of collecting was more than rudimentary, or that my sympathies were as wide as the State. I had been reared a Methodist and educated at the University; hence, I cared nothing for other denominations or other institutions. But I soon outgrew that idea. At that time I devoted my attention in collecting mainly to what I may call digested history rather than to the more important original sources. This phase of my mental development is well illustrated by my Bibliography of the Historical Literature of North Carolina, published in 1895. There are few references to sources in that work; it deals almost exclusively with the historical works written about the State and her citizens. But I came later to see that if the Collection was to be of the greatest value it must have newspapers, public documents of all kinds, journals of legislative, deliberative, and religious bodies—in a word, all that vast mass of original materials on which digested history is based. This brought me into the wide field of statute law, codes or revisals, and session laws; to the journals of the houses of assembly, the documents printed by the State, and the still larger mass, but far more scattered and difficult to obtain, printed by the United States and dealing with North Carolina in whole or in part, and to the journals or minutes

of the various organizations in the State. The next phase of development was that in which I reached out and included in my work all the writings of North Carolina citizens, regardless of their subject. Then came the last phase; that had to do with North Carolina imprints, and had been developed partly in my bibliography of the North Carolina press in the eighteenth century. I have only gradually come to realize that a book printed in North Carolina regardless of its contents is no less a part of the history of the State than is one which devotes itself entirely to that history or to the biography of her citizens. In fact, it stands for a phase of industrial life that nothing else can explain so well. Thus the imprint "Raleigh, 1805," to be found in the volume of sermons of Devereux Jarratt, the Virginia Episcopal evangelist of a hundred years ago, tells a tale of intellectual activity and business enterprise on the part of its publisher and of growth of the infant capital for which nothing else can be substituted. Further, most books written by natives or residents of the State are printed within its borders, and an extension of the scope of the Collection to include State imprints brings us visibly nearer to a complete list with no correspondingly great increase of labor.

It may be said here that a line must be drawn somewhere as to what may properly be counted as the productions of North Carolina authors. Should Thomas H. Benton be included, for instance, because he was born in the State, while his life was spent elsewhere? The uniform answer of bibliographers would be, No. The consensus of opinion on inclusion is that a State bibliography should include the works written while a resident of the State (or while still identified with the State, I should add), written about the State or its citizens, or published in the State; and these rules have been followed in this Collection. Thus Tom Dixon's *The One Woman* and his *The Life Worth Living* are included, while Benton's *Thirty Years' View* and his *Abridgment* are omitted.

Having thus traced my own mental growth in the matter of book collecting, it will be possible for me to give some account of the Collection itself, treating it under some of the great divisions to which the subject naturally lends itself. I shall undertake to mention a volume only now and then of the many in my hands, considering those of most intrinsic value or that are for any other reason particularly worthy of note. Only a detailed catalogue would suffice for them all, and that is not desired nor possible.

ASSOCIATION BOOKS.

Association books, or *livres de provenance*, as the French call them, is a term used to describe books which, however unimportant in themselves, are yet connected with the names of great men. Who, for instance, would not delight to hold in his hand the identical volume of tales read by Daniel Boone and his fellows when they were making their first settlements in Kentucky, and which is now in the library of Colonel Reuben T. Durrett of Louisville? In the same way the copy of Bradley's Treatise on Husbandry, now in my Collection, once the property of Edward Moseley and bearing his autograph and bookplate, brings us sensibly nearer to that patriot-statesman of colonial days—the best abused man in the colony, and certainly its most prominent and useful citizen. And is there not aroused a sympathetic chord with the past as we open Littleton's Defense of the Christian Revelation, once the property of Clement Hall, so far as known the first native of North Carolina to take holy orders and the first to publish a book, and see his name on the fly-leaf, written 154 years ago? Are not sentiments of patriotism and enthusiasm for colonial days excited when we can handle books once the property of Governor Gabriel Johnston (with bookplate), of John Hodgson, of James Hasell (with bookplate), of General Alexander Lillington, of James Iredell the elder, and of William Hooper, the signer? And if sentiments for the merely curious are aroused they may

be gratified by seeing the original commission of one of the predecessors of Mr. Secretary Grimes, in the person of Daniel Akehurst, commissioned February 8, 1692, as Secretary of that part of the province of Carolina north and east of Cape Fear River, bearing the autograph signatures and seals of the Lords Proprietors, including that of the gentle Quaker, John Archdale, whose memory we still lovingly cultivate while that of others is allowed to rot—a fate which most of them richly deserve.

INCUNABULA.

The world is always most interested in the beginnings of things. The North Carolina press dates from June 24, 1791 when James Davis, having set up his press in Newbern, entered upon his five-year contract to do printing for the colony. His very first issues were perhaps paper money; proclamations in the shape of broadsides and journals of the assembly. But these have all perished, so far as known. In 1751 the first copies of Swann's Revisal, popularly known as the Yellow Jacket, were issued. The date of this publication has usually been given as 1752, and not until the Charlemagne Tower Collection of Colonial Laws came into possession of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, about 1890, was the existence of the 1751 issue known. But my own copy is older than the one in the Tower Collection. My copy ends with the laws for 1750. The other four known copies with the 1751 imprint all have the laws for June session, 1751, bound in. This is presumptive evidence that my copy was printed, bound, published, and sold before June, 1751. It is beyond doubt the oldest of all known copies, and it may possibly be the very first copy of what is certainly the first book issued by the first printer in North Carolina. Is not the possession of this book, the oldest monument of the North Carolina press, something in which any citizen might rejoice? I have three other imperfect copies of the Yellow Jacket. All lack the title, but one bears internal evidence

of being a 1751 issue. It was bound without the laws of June session, 1751; but failing in a purchaser, the two-page index was removed and the laws of 1751 were added. The Revisals of the statutes compiled by James Davis and published by him in 1764 and 1765 it has never been my good fortune to secure. Later revisals—Davis, 1773; Iredell, 1791, with various supplements; Martin, 1804, in one and two volumes; Potter, Taylor, and Yancey, 1821; Nash, Iredell, and Battle, 1837; Moore, 1855; Battle, 1873—are all present.

The earliest session laws I have are those for 1762, 1764, 1765, 1766, and 1774. The latter is represented twice—once as a supplement to Davis's Revisal of 1773 and once in a beautifully clean, untrimmed copy in separate form. Those for 1782 testify eloquently to the struggle which our forefathers were waging. They are printed on three sizes of paper, it being impossible to find enough paper to make all the pages of one size, even for the very small edition issued. The session laws for 1764 were printed by Andrew Steuart in Wilmington, "printer to the King"; and thereby hangs a pretty tale of struggle between power and privilege on one side and grim determination to reassert the inherent rights of Englishmen on the other. The tale is told here and there in the Colonial Records. I have gathered and connected the parts in my Press in North Carolina in the Eighteenth Century, and reprint the whole in my sketch of James Davis in the new Biographical History of North Carolina. From 1782, with the exception of perhaps a dozen years, my set of the session laws is complete to date and the lacunæ in the earlier years may be supplied in part from reprints and later editions. And I may add here that when Mr. Chief Justice Clark was compiling the colonial laws for the State Records he had to come to this Collection for at least one act of which a complete copy could be found nowhere else.

Another early imprint in the Collection is James Davis's Office and Authority of a Justice of the Peace (Newbern,

1774). My copy lacks a leaf in the middle, but is the only one known to me. Martin's *Justice* (Newbern, 1791) is there, as is Haywood's *Manual* of 1800. One of the rarest of these early imprints is Martin's edition of the laws of 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794, published in 1795. I have but a single copy, while I have two copies of his *Private Acts* (1794) and three of his *British Statutes* (1792). The educational side of the eighteenth century is represented by the only copy that I know of Henry Patillo's *Geographical Catechism* (Halifax, 1796). The early nineteenth century press is seen in Burkitt and Read's *History of the Kehukee Baptist Association* (Halifax: Abraham Hodge, 1803), which I believe to be the first historical book ever printed in the State. I have also Martin's *Executors* (Newbern, 1802) and his translation of Pothier on *Obligations* (1804), for it must be remembered that the first English publication of that great French book on law was made by François Xavier Martin in Newbern, N. C. Nor must I fail to mention the *Abstract of Army Accounts*, published about 1793, in a very limited edition; but five copies are known, four of them, including my own, being imperfect.

I have examples of eighteenth century work from the presses of James Davis of Newbern; of Thomas Davis, Newbern and Halifax; Arnett and Hodge, Newbern; F. X. Martin, Newbern; Hodge and Wills, Halifax; Hodge and Wills, Newbern; Hodge and Wills, Edenton; Abraham Hodge, Halifax, and Andrew Steuart, Wilmington. I have nothing from the Fayetteville, Hillsboro, Salisbury, and Raleigh presses of the eighteenth century. The earliest Raleigh imprint that I have is 1804—*Matilda Berkely*, the work of Mrs. Joseph Gales.

Up to the time of the publication of my *Libraries and Literature in North Carolina in the Eighteenth Century*, in 1896, I had discovered 153 separate North Carolina publications, 1749-1800. It is probable that a revision in the light of present knowledge would swell this list to more than 200

titles. I have between forty and fifty titles bearing a North Carolina imprint prior to 1800. They are in all stages of preservation, from the complete and beautiful Revisal of 1751 and the perfect session laws of 1774 to the four pages which is my all of the Revisal of 1765.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Public documents I believe to be the least known, the least appreciated and most contemptuously regarded of all forms of literature. Their common occurrence, their bulk, the large size of the editions, their supposed dryness, the very abbreviation, "Pub. Docs.," by which both State and Federal publications are known in public libraries and book shops, their binding in full library sheep, the formidable appearance that long lines of uniform dress present, their relegation to the top shelves of the library, all tend to make them forbidding. The casual student never gets further than the title; the average reader shuns them with horror.

And yet no class of publications are of more value. This is the literature which comes closest to the people as a whole. The State is here, both author and subject; this is the State's autobiography. It is here only that we can see to the best advantage the activities of the people in their organic capacity; only here can we trace movements in education, the development of banks, the inception of canals, railroads, and the like. The documents of a city bear the same relation to it as do those of a State to their author. A city's documents include charter and city ordinances, reports of school boards, police, fire, engineers, water-works, etc. It is the business record of the city; it stands in the same relation to the city as the books of a company stand to their business. The people as individuals are vitally concerned in their own work as parts of an organic whole. No man may presume to call himself the historian of a people till he has studied long and carefully their laws and public documents. And yet no class of sources has been so frequently neglected.

My collection of the public documents of the State, including the laws and the journals of the two Houses of Assembly, is fairly complete since about 1840. Of earlier years I have only a few imperfect legislative journals; but more of public documents, including Treasurers' Reports, Murphey's Memoir on Internal Improvements (1819), and most of the reports and documents of the Board of Internal Improvements, 1818-1840, and of the Olmsted-Mitchell Geological Survey, 1824-1829. The publications of these two bodies are counted as the very beginnings of geological work in America, and Murphey's Memoir is the chief cornerstone.

The documents on education begin with Walker's report to the Assembly of 1816, which preceded Murphey's report by two days; includes Caldwell's Letters on Popular Education (Hillsboro, 1832, and not strictly a public document), and a complete set of the Wiley reports, those of the Reconstruction period and most of those of later days.

The later geological reports, Emmons, Kerr, and Holmes surveys, the various constitutional conventions and their documents are present, but not all in complete sets. As I have said, my session laws are nearly complete since 1782.

When we come to a study of the documents of the United States the story is the same. The Federal Government has published hundreds of documents that concern North Carolina in whole or in part. They relate to almost every phase of her life-history, to her biography and even genealogy. They appear principally in the form of contested elections in Congress, in matters growing out of the Civil War, claims for damages, Indians, resolves of the State Legislature and of public bodies, speeches of members of Congress, education, internal revenue, coast survey matters, and above all, under heads connected with the river and harbor bill. Many surveys of North Carolina watercourses have been ordered, and the reports made contain not only much material of value on the natural features of the State, but also on local commerce and history. As the State now does nothing in the way

of internal improvements, the Reports of the Chief of Engineers, U. S. A., furnish us practically a complete history of the work for the improvement of harbors and waterways in the State. The set of separates in my Collection from these Reports, starting in 1876, the time when separates were first issued, is believed to be complete. These are supplemented by many reports on surveys for the same period which are as complete as repeated applications to all offices having the matters in charge have been able to make them. The task of collecting any class of documents of the Federal Government is much greater than that for those of the State Government. The former are printed along with great numbers of similar documents for other States; great alertness and much reading of government catalogues is the price of their acquisition. The number of such documents in my hands is several hundreds at least; many are of *post-bellum* date; others go back to the thirties and forties and even earlier, and vary in size from a single page to a large volume.

CIVIL WAR AND CONFEDERATE IMPRINTS.

Another phase of this interesting work that has been found worth cultivating is the literature growing out of the Civil War and its aftermath, the darker days of Reconstruction, and the publications issued in the State during the Civil War period.

It is believed that the set of laws and public documents issued by the State during those years is fairly complete, including the proceedings and documents of the four conventions, 1861-'62, 1865-'66, 1868, 1875; the impeachment trial of Holden, in three volumes, together with a fourth volume, probably unique, consisting of the speeches excerpted from the body of the proceedings and bound into a single volume to the order of Josiah Turner, Jr., then public printer, with many of the preliminary documents, orders, reports, etc., leading up to the trial.

Edwards's Sketch of Macon represents what is believed to be about the only purely historical or biographical publication in the State during the war. Of the domestic literature growing out of the war, the histories of regiments, companies, commands, etc., with two or three exceptions, I have all publications of which I have knowledge, and particular efforts have been made to learn. I have also Scharf's Confederate Navy, Taylor's Blockade-Running, Hobart Pasha's Sketches, and others. The Federal side has not been forgotten and includes Conyngham's Sherman, Bowman's Sherman, Sherman's Official Report, his Memoirs, and Boynton's fierce and merciless review of the same; Haines' Letters from the 44th Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, which saw service in and around Newbern and Washington; all except one of the Narratives which concern North Carolina that have been published by the Soldiers and Sailors' Historical Society of Providence, R. I.; Fox's Regimental Losses; Porter's Naval History; Gen. R. C. Hawkins's Assassination of Loyal North Carolinians (by G. E. Pickett); Woodbury's Burnside, Rev. W. G. Hawkins's Lunsford Lane and the second edition of Lane's Autobiography (1842); Colyer's Services of the Freed People (New York, 1864); Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies and Navies (incomplete); and many documents published by the Federal Government on matters growing out of the war.

In Confederate publications or imprints the Collection is very strong, and contains many besides those issued in North Carolina. Besides the laws, journals and documents published by the State and already mentioned, I have a number of novels, and many school books which were prepared, published, and used during the war. The Collection contains Sterling and Campbell's Our Own Readers; Moore's Dixie Readers; Johnson's and Landers's Arithmetics; Moore's Geographies, the only ones published in the Confederacy; Smythe's and York's English Grammars; Craven's Bullion's English Grammar, while Bingham's Latin Grammar and

Cæsar stand alone in their field and represent the high-water mark of Confederate scholarship.

Nor must I forget Warren's Surgery and a mass of Confederate commissary and subsistence papers of various kinds and about 28 original company muster-rolls, some of them not found in Moore's Roster. These were discovered in a garret in Chapel Hill in the summer of 1891. The temperature was more than a hundred in that garret and the dust had accumulated for generations. I was in an oven, perspiring profusely, almost stifled with dirt and dust, which increased as every new item was brought to light; but I stuck to my task. It was too entertaining, too exhilarating to be deserted, and when I came down, hot and tired, wet and dirty, but happy, I had material essential to the history of the great war that cannot be duplicated. The muster-rolls have been submitted to and copied by the War Department for its compilation of Confederate Rosters.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES.

I believe that this part of the Collection can hold its own with other sections. The oldest volumes are *The North Carolina Star* (Raleigh, 1820), and *The Elizabeth City Star, and Eastern North Carolina Intelligencer* (1826), although there are a few miscellaneous numbers of an earlier date. Then follows a complete copy of the first volume of the *Baptist Interpreter*, from which the *Biblical Recorder* was later evolved; 21 volumes of newspapers published in Raleigh, 1844-'56; many copies of the *Hillsboro Recorder* from about 1825; 201 copies of the *Daily Confederate* (Raleigh), April, 1864, to March, 1865; and some 100 miscellaneous issues of other North Carolina Civil War papers, mostly Raleigh; about 250 copies of Richmond war papers, principally the *Whig*; some 300 copies of the war numbers of the *Charleston Mercury*, and some 200 of the *Southern Fireside*. The set of *DeBow's Review* is far from complete, but that of the *South-*

ern Review (Charleston, 1828-'32) is entirely so; the *Southern Literary Messenger* lacks but two numbers; the *Farmer's Journal* (Vol. I, Bath, N. C., 1852), and some 16 numbers of the first two volumes of *The Arator* (1855-'56) are present. Wiley's *Common School Journal* (1856) is represented by its only number, while his *North Carolina Educational Journal* (1858-'64) is fairly complete. The post-bellum magazines, like *Land We Love, Our Living and Our Dead* (newspaper form not quite complete), *Southern Historical Monthly*, North Carolina Baptist Historical Society *Papers*, *North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register*, *Publications* Southern History Association, Southern Historical Society *Papers* (Richmond), to Vol. XIII, *Journal* Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society, *South Atlantic* (incomplete), *South Atlantic Quarterly*, *American Historical Magazine* (Nashville, Vols. IV-IX), and *North Carolina Booklet*, are complete except as indicated. *The North Carolina University Magazine* (1844-1906) is represented by what I am quite sure is the only complete set of that valuable college and historical publication in the world.

BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.

For reasons unknown to me the State has produced little of formal biography. Most dead men have to be content with a few lines in the daily press; a few, perhaps two or three a year, are honored with more extended notice in the shape of a pamphlet memorial; but I recall at this time Macon, Vance, and Craven as the only natives of the State and spending their lives in North Carolina who have been honored with formal biographies. I have made particular effort to secure all of the biographical pamphlet literature, and have met with great success. The Collection contains, besides pamphlets and the various memorial addresses delivered in the last twenty-five years, autobiographies of Travis, Jenkins, Barr, Joseph Thomas, and Howell; McRee's Iredell, Parton's Jackson, Hubbard's Davie, Caldwell's Greene, Johnson's Greene,

Caruthers's Caldwell, Reid's Life, the worthless Cotton's Macon, Edwards's Macon, Dodd's Macon, Dowd's Vance, Haywood's Tryon, and the Journal of Charles Osborne, native of Chatham and Quaker reformer, who was the first to demand immediate and universal emancipation. I have also the Reminiscences of Levi Coffin, a Guilford County Quaker, reputed president of the Underground Railroad, and the Life of Addison Coffin, another Guilford County Quaker, who was one of its earliest conductors. "Extracts from the Manuscript Writings" of Barnaby Nixon (Richmond, 1814) carry us back to the quieter days of Quakerism, while the Life of "Chicken" Stephens takes us to Reconstruction times and Caswell County and sets us to reading Fool's Errand by the South's keenest, most versatile, and bitterest critic.

Of collected biography, besides Wheeler's Reminiscences there is to be found Brant and Fuller's Cyclopædia of Eminent and Representative Men of the Carolinas (N. C. volume only), A. Davis Smith's Western North Carolina Historical and Biographical and the new and scholarly Biographical History of North Carolina, so far as published. This publication represents more ambitious plans and is pitched on a far higher plane than anything hitherto undertaken by us. It clothes its volumes in the best dress, tells the life-history of the best men in the State far better than has ever been attempted before and presents a goodly company worthy of emulation. I shall extend my set of these excellent and beautiful volumes from the original number to twenty or twenty-five by extra illustrating, inserting extra portraits, sketches, pictures, documents, and many autograph letters.

In genealogy the Collection is weak, for few genealogical studies have been published on the families of the State, and these are of recent years. I have Bailey, Craighead, Roulhac, Branson, two distinct families of Jones, Shuford, McAllister, and such short genealogies as are found in the general works dealing with history and biography.

GENERAL HISTORY, TOWN AND COUNTY HISTORY, AND MAPS.

All the general histories are present in some edition except Brickell. Lawson is represented by two editions (Raleigh, 1860; Charlotte, 1903), by his *Journal of a Thousand Miles Travel*, from the London edition of 1711, and by the German translation published in Hamburg, 1712—*Allerneuste Beschreibung der Provintz Carolina in West-Indien*—which was perhaps issued in connection with DeGraffenried's Swiss colonial project, and was certainly intended to boom settlement. Williamson and Martin are both represented by beautiful sets in the original boards and entirely uncut. Wheeler—almost a cornerstone of the Collection; Hawks, with all three editions of volume one, and Moore, take their proper places.

There are many books that deal with particular sections, like Hunter's *Western North Carolina*; or with counties, as *Tompkins*, *Rumple*, *Fries*, *Stockard*; or travels, as *Smyth*, *Bartram*, *Michaux*; or with particular denominations, like *Foote*, *Bernheim*, *Chreitzberg*, *Burkhead*, *Burkitt and Read*, *Biggs*, *Hassell*, *Cheshire*, *Reichel*, *Clewell*, *Paris*, *Purefoy*, *Benedict*, *Delke*, *Logan*, *Gano*, *Ashplund* (*Southampton, Va.*, 1791), and many pamphlets on church history, church biography, and sermons, representing all denominations and all periods.

The minutes of the Methodist Conferences before the organization of the North Carolina Conference are there, as are many of the yearly minutes since the organization of that body. I have the journals for the first twelve years after the re-organization of the Diocese of North Carolina (1817-'29) and many of later date. The minutes of Presbyterian Synods and Baptist Associations, though eagerly chased, have to a large extent escaped my watchfulness.

The Revolution is represented by Jones's *Defence*, Goodloe's *Birth of the Republic*, Caruthers's *Incidents* (2 vols.), Tarleton's *Campaign* (1787), Mackenzie's *Strictures* (1787),

the Clinton-Cornwallis Controversy (2 vols.), the Cornwallis Correspondence (3 vols.), Ramsay's Revolution in South Carolina (2 vols.), Drayton's Memoirs (2 vols.), James's Marion, Garden's Anecdotes (1822-'28, 2 vols.), Lee's Memoirs, and his son's Campaign of 1781 in the Carolinas, Johnson's Greene (2 vols.), and Fanning's Narrative (large paper).

I believe that I have nearly everything published in the way of town and county histories or historical sketches. I have gathered also, many of the illustrated pamphlets issued by the railroads for advertising purposes. These contain much descriptive and illustrative material and include the Southern's large volume, *The Empire of the South*.

The separate maps are represented by Homans (1725), Wimble (1738), Hyrne (1749), Mackay (1760), Bellin (1762), Mouzon (1775), Romans (1776), Pocock (1777), Lewis (1795), Price and Strother (1808), Pierce (ca. 1856), and others; and by a number of coast charts, Civil War (Federal), county, and city maps.

POETRY AND NOVELS, SERMONS AND MISCELLANEOUS
LITERATURE.

Under this head may be mentioned: Attempts at Rhyming by an Old-Field Teacher (Raleigh, 1837), a volume whose author I have tried without success to discover; both editions of Dr. Mangum's *Myrtle Leaves* (1858 and 1864); Hill's *Hesperus* (1861), believed to have been the first volume of poetry published in the Confederate States; Major Jep Joselyn's *Tar-heel Tales in Vernacular Verse*, which seems to have been the product of one of Sherman's bummers and concerns North Carolina only in name; Rhodes's *Indian Gallows* (1846); Strong's *Francis Herbert*, copies of which were later in life bought and destroyed by the author; Jesse Jennett's *Collection of Hymns and Spiritual Songs* (Wilmington, 1807); *Wood Notes* (2 vols.); *Hawks's Poems* (1873); James Ephraim McGirt's *Avenging the Maine*; and Miss

Peterson's *Little Pansy*, made famous by the enthusiastic homage of the *Charlotte Observer*.

The novels include F. X. Martin's translation from the French of *Stephanie de Bourbon* (Newbern, 1801); Mrs. Joseph Gales' *Matilda Berkely* (Raleigh, 1804); Judge Strange's *Eoneguske* (2 vols., Washington, 1839), which deals with the Cherokees and is said to have damaged him politically, and others of later date.

Sermon literature is represented by Patillo (Wilmington, Del. (?), 1788), Forster (1821), McIver's *Southern Preacher* (1824), Buxton (1852), Ravenscroft, Ives (1844), Branson's *North Carolina Sermons* (3 vols.), Skinner (1894), and many single sermons by men who never rose to the dignity of publishing a volume.

The domestic literature of our State has taken largely the form of history, biography, poetry, and novels. Besides those already mentioned, I may make brief note of what is perhaps the completest set of the annual, general, and society catalogues and of the various addresses of the University of North Carolina, a small number of separate portraits of North Carolinians, and in addition: Caldwell's *Geometry*; Guion's curious and very entertaining book, *The Comet*; Bingham's *English Grammar*, prepared during the war, but not published till afterward; *Essays on Agriculture and Rural Affairs* (1818), by an author whose identity, like him of the *Attempts at Rhyming*, has eluded all my efforts at identification; Shep. Dugger's jumble of rhetoric and bathos, called *Balsam Groves of the Grandfather Mountain*; Sawyer's comedy, *Blackbeard* (1824); both editions of the *Selections from the Writings and Speeches of Thomas L. Clingman*—the only North Carolinian, I believe, to publish such a collection; complete and un mutilated copies of the two *Fraud Commissions*; the *Military Trial of the Murderers of Archibald Beebee* (Tolar-McRae); numerous State, county, and town directories; three editions of *Helper's Impending Crisis* and his anti-negro books of later date;

three or four books written by negroes; Mrs. Mason's Wreath from the Woods of Carolina; a complete set in mounted form of Sprunt's A Colonial Plantation and his What Ship is That? which appeared in weekly instalments in the *Southport Leader* some thirteen years ago; Pettigrew's Spain and the Spaniards (1861); Williamson on Climate (1811), which served as an introduction to his History of North Carolina; many almanacs, beginning with Hodge and Boylan's for 1801; the life of "Beau" Hickman, the Warren County deadbeat; a contemporary account of Nat Turner's insurrection, with a horrible frontispiece; an edition of Locke's Fundamental Constitutions printed in 1720 (London); many speeches delivered at various times and places by various individuals; the extensive Prefatory Notes to the ten volumes of the Colonial Records written by Colonel Saunders, paged continuously and bound into a single volume, forming a very valuable book on the history of the colony and unpublished in this form; and what is perhaps the only case on record where a North Carolina author has had a single volume printed under three distinct titles and two of them in a foreign country, for Wiley's Old Dan Tucker (London, ca. 1851), his Utopia; an Early Picture of Life at the South (London, ca. 1853), and his Roanoke (Philadelphia, v. d.) are all the same book.

MANUSCRIPTS, AUTOGRAPHS, AND RELICS.

The division of manuscripts and autographs will compare favorably with other sections. It includes many manuscripts, in part original, in part copies, of material relating to the career of Gen. Joseph Martin and dealing with the Cherokees and the winning of Tennessee to civilization, most of which have been recently published by myself. I have an account book kept in Wilmington in 1767; all of the correspondence of Willie P. Mangum, United States Senator and President of the United States Senate, with autograph letters from many men of his day prominent in the State and

Nation, including Badger, Brown, Branch, Battle, Gaston, Graham, T. J. Green, Hoke, W. H. Haywood, Morehead, Edward Stanly, Governor Owen, Macon, Yancey, and others. Of national characters from other States there are letters from John Tyler, Buchanan, A. H. Stephens, Joseph E. Johnston, J. Watson Webb, Scott, William R. King, Clay, Benton, Calhoun, Reverdy Johnson, John Bell, Lewis Cass, and one from Lincoln in which he asks Mangum's assistance in getting the commissionership of the General Land Office. I have also a part of the correspondence of Calvin H. Wiley, with several letters from Gen. D. H. Hill, Jonathan Worth, W. W. Holden, and others of his time; the correspondence of D. R. Goodloe, with Greeley's scrawl, which is after all quite plain compared with that of some other folks I know; letters from Sumner, Chase, Seward, and many from Sunset Cox, for whom Goodloe wrote that part of his *Three Decades of Federal Legislation* which deals with Reconstruction. I have also Goodloe's manuscript history opposing the authenticity of the 20th May Declaration of Independence and those parts of his history of Reconstruction not used by Cox. I have the Journal of Jeremiah Norman, Methodist pioneer in southeastern North Carolina a hundred years ago; Wood's manuscript *History of Methodism in the Yadkin Valley*, as well as the unprinted parts of Doub's *History of Methodism in North Carolina*, and a part of the correspondence of Willie P. Mangum, Jr., long United States consul in China and Japan.

The relics, as such, are few, but they include an iron hatchet of antique pattern dug up on the site of old Fort Raleigh on Roanoke Island in 1862. Its history is authentic, for I received the hatchet from the late William J. Griffin of Elizabeth City, who got it from Dough (?), by whom it was found. The late G. Brown Goode of the Smithsonian Institution, believed that it was of sixteenth century workmanship.

CONCLUSION.

As every collector well knows, it is exceedingly difficult to draw rigid lines of demarcation on what shall be called a North Carolina book and what not. In endeavoring to solve this question, I have interpreted the term "North Carolina literature" liberally and have included many items like Haywood's *Tennessee* (1891), Ramsey's *Tennessee*, Ramsay's *Revolution in South Carolina*, Gibbes's *Documents*, Gregg's *Old Cheraws*, Carroll's *Collections*, Hewatt's *Rise and Progress of South Carolina and Georgia*, and even Major Hanger's *Life and Adventures*, in the Collection, for the reason that my experience has uniformly been that in writing an author will use more books than would appear to a casual observer as proper to go into a formal bibliography of that subject, and my purpose has been to form first of all a working Collection out of which I may prepare a bibliography not only full, but because of its range and comprehensiveness capable of furnishing isolated facts and local color. I have many other books dealing with various phases of Southern history which seem just beyond the bounds of North Carolina literature, even when that term is liberally interpreted, but which, nevertheless, are of value to the State student, such as the collections of the Virginia Historical Society, Burk's *Virginia* (4 vols.), some of the *American Archives and State Papers*, Hotten's *Lists*, *Bulletins of Bureau of Rolls and Library*, *Reports of the Bureau of Ethnology*, *Collections South Carolina Historical Society* (3 vols.), Ramsay's *South Carolina* (2 vols., 1809), *Mills' Statistics*, and the histories of education in the various Southern States.

Of seventeenth century imprints, like Hilton, Horne, Wilson, Lederer, Ash, I have not one; but they are all present in the form of reprints; which for all practical purposes are as good, and in some cases even better. The oldest item is Lawson's *Journal of a Thousand Miles Travel* (London, 1711). The newest was received yesterday. The Collection repre-

sents four languages: The exceedingly rare and valuable Walter's *Flora Caroliniana* (London, 1788) is in Latin, and of this I know of but two copies in America; the Lawson of Hamburg (1712) and Muelinen's Christoph von Graffenried are in German; Laboulaye's *Histoire des Etats-Unis*, which contains an illuminating analysis of Locke's Fundamental Constitutions, and some other items, are in French. I know of at least one item in Spanish—a book on Masonry.

My purpose in making this Collection has been manifold. I wished to make first of all a working Collection of Carolina for my own use in my North Carolina studies in general and for use in compiling my Bibliography of North Carolina in particular. In this I have met with success—such success that an exhaustive study of many phases of the State's history can not be made without consulting this Collection. Then the Collection has increased my knowledge amazingly and has afforded me infinite pleasure. But do not think that it has come for the asking. I have had to pay a price: much study, continued alertness, and great reading. During the last three years, 1903, 1904, and 1905, I have read by actual count 71,289 pages of book catalogues, mostly of old or second-hand books, or an average of 23,763 pages per year; and this is not above the average for the last fifteen years. I have many hundreds of cards alphabetically arranged with manuscript notes or mounted clippings which relate to books that are known or believed to contain materials on North Carolina, but which I have never seen. The cards are eliminated as soon as the title in question comes to hand; but still the unknown quantities grow, for as my knowledge of the subject increases I but increase the surrounding circle of darkness.

My aim is to secure every book, pamphlet, or magazine article that in whole or to any considerable extent concerns North Carolina, North Carolinians or their work. ~~Twenty~~³⁰ ~~two~~ years of labor have accumulated some 3,300 items; but this is perhaps not over half that can with propriety be

included in a bibliography of the State. In my Bibliography of the Historical Literature of North Carolina, published in 1895, I gave 1,491 titles, mostly digested history; of these I had at that time 863 titles; in 1900 I had about 1,200 of them; since then I have secured of those titles perhaps only twenty or thirty more, for they have risen in price, become much scarcer, and are lost in the greater mass of material now appearing as a result of the historical and intellectual awakening of the last ten years.

Nor have many of these items come to me except through personal solicitation. I have written much and printed long lists of wants. It is probable that my set of the North Carolina University Magazine alone cost me a thousand personal letters. I have searched many garrets, cellars, and outhouses. One of my most important finds was made just in time to save the stuff from destruction. The house was being repaired. The stuff had been gathered into a single room and condemned. Some of it had been actually carried off and put to base uses. The subsequent fortune of the remainder may be easily guessed when I say that I found among this material North Carolina session laws dating to 1782, the Abstract of Army Accounts, and my own great, great, great grandfather's autograph.

The value of such a Collection is further enhanced when it is remembered that a very large number of the items are mere pamphlets of twenty to sixty pages; that they are printed, not published; that they are rarely sold, never get into the book markets and seldom into public libraries; that they are printed in very limited editions, distributed unbound to friends, and from the indifference and contempt to which "pamphlets," one of the most valuable sources of contemporary history, are usually subjected, soon perish. To the generation that produces them such publications are trash; to the next they are priceless. The counties, the State, the Nation, the bookselling world have been searched for these ephemera. The Collection is weakest in those books which

by reason of publication or the general subject covered are best known and most widely distributed, like Catesby, Adair, Hutchins, Stedman, Brickell, the early editions of Lawson, and similar works. It is strongest in local imprints, pamphlets, and ephemera.

There are three other valuable Collections of North Carolina books in private hands, those of Mr. F. A. Sondley of Asheville, of Mr. H. R. Scott of Reidsville, and of Mr. Thomas M. Pittman of Henderson. The first two I have never seen. Pittman's Collection I saw ten years ago. It was then very valuable and contained the Revisal of 1765, much coveted by myself. With his keen historical sense, wide knowledge, and well-known enthusiasm, the owner has no doubt added much in number and value. Were these four private Collections brought together as a part of the State Library North Carolina would have, with what she now possesses in the form of newspapers and public documents, a mass of material beyond the rivalry of future collectors and in fullness perhaps unsurpassed by any similar Collection in other States. Of the valuable Collection formed by Dr. Dred Peacock, and to which I contributed many duplicates, I have heard nothing since it passed out of his hands.

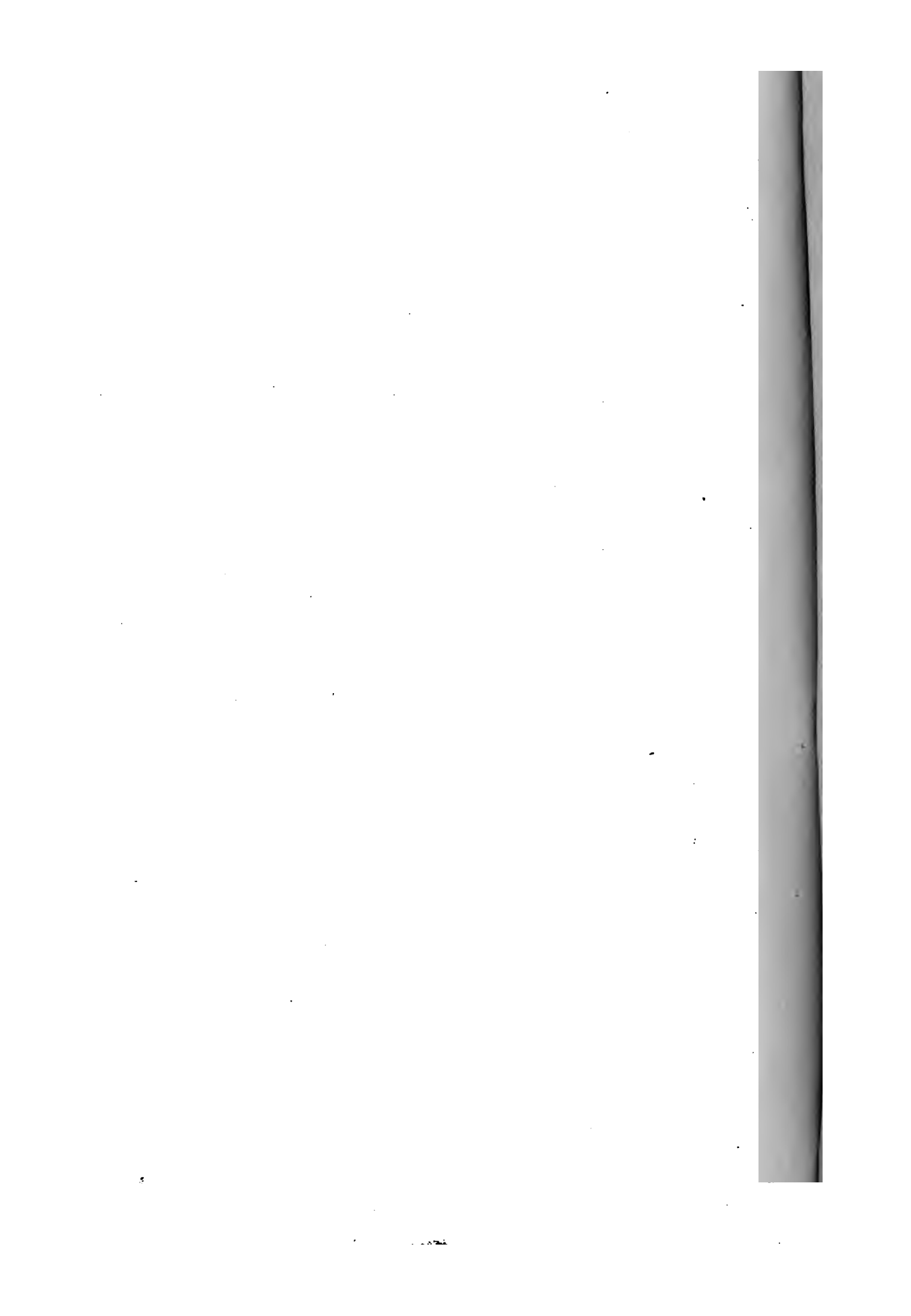
I have written this account of what many call a foolish fad, not simply because the Historical Commission has requested it, but because in this way I hope to interest others in the profitable and educating pastime of book collecting—an unending source of pleasure which may be had for the price of three good cigars per day, and one so full of exhilarating fascination that some one has wittily said it "adds a new pang to death."

It is unnecessary to point out to an educated person the value of such a Collection as my own, even in private hands, to the State as a whole. We have long complained that our history has been either mis-written or not written at all. The fault is our own, for students have been and are still hampered in finding material which they know to exist.

History cannot be written apart from great libraries, and the first step towards such libraries is the personal enthusiasm, the exuberant, overflowing abandon that characterized the great collectors of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries when they went in their search for the lost treasures of the ancients from one monastery to another and brought to light from many a hidden corner the literary wealth of the Greeks and Romans. These wandering scholars were also called simpletons, enthusiasts, fanatics; but they gave to posterity priceless manuscripts of which an earlier generation had never dreamed; and from their work came the Renaissance—the mother in turn of the Reformation, the Revolution, and modern life.

We need to have reproduced in North Carolina to-day, *mutatis mutandis*, the enthusiasm of those wandering scholars. Public libraries, some aided by Carnegie funds, some by city and private funds; school libraries, aided by State, county, and private funds, are rising slowly in various parts of the State. Let the librarian of each collect all possible items that concern North Carolina or her citizens; let her strive to get some of the general histories, like Williamson, Martin, Wheeler, Hawks, and Moore. While these are all poor, they are better than nothing; they may inspire a love for the past and so lead to better things. Let her try by all means to buy such books, new or old, as relate to her city, county, section; let her talk about these books, show them to the patrons of her library and get them read. When we get to be a reading people we shall not be satisfied with what has been done; we shall then demand better things, and when the demand comes men will arise to build better than has been.

SAN CARLOS INDIAN RESERVATION,
SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA.



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